



Fifty Lakes Property Owners Association (FLPOA) 2018 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar! **The Annual Meeting is Saturday, May 26, 2018** this year we will be hosting a picnic at the Fifty Lakes Pavilion from 11:00-2:00. Come and join your neighbors for a picnic lunch.

This newsletter is a summary of the aquatic invasive species (AIS) programs and activities the FLPOA will participate in 2018. Currently, the lakes in Fifty Lakes are free of any AIS, with the exception of a small amount of **Purple Loosestrife (PL)** found in Mitchell Lake, much of which was removed by volunteers this past summer before the flowers went to seed. We are surrounded with area lakes that have been infected with Zebra Mussels, Eurasian Milfoil and other AIS species. In 2014, there was a report of Curly-Leaf Pond weed (CLP) at the Lake Mitchell public watercraft access. In September 2014, the DNR conducted a survey of the access and found no CLP. Two follow-up surveys at the access in 2015, were both negative for CLP. In 2016, there was a report of Curly-leaf pondweed near the Eagle Lake access, but follow-up inspections did not confirm the presence of CLP.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/purpleloosestrife/control.html>

Access Inspector Program

Fifty Lakes boat inspection hours for 2018 were cut from 800 hours, down to 300 hours and these 300 hours are identified for use at the East Fox Lake launch. This is a state program funded by a bill that was passed by the legislature. Next time you see or contact your legislator, thank them for this bill and encourage them to renew the bill in coming sessions. The role of the inspector is to inspect all watercraft entering and leaving the lake for any AIS and to educate everyone about AIS. The link below will take you to the MN revenue funding information. The total State allocation is \$10,000,000 from 2015 forward. Crow Wing County amounts 2015 \$450,473, 2016 \$448,676, 2017 \$445, 700, 2018 \$442,755 the reduced allocation year after year since 2015 is disturbing when AIS continues to spread.

http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/local_gov/prop_tax_admin/Pages/ais.aspx

***Note: Inspector cost is \$19.02 per hour so cost to replace the 500 hours is \$9,510, assuming 185 paid up members this amounts to \$51 per member. We are going to need more contributions to fund inspectors.**

AIS Watercraft Access Surveys

In 2017 we hired Professional Lake Management (PLM) to conduct a plant survey at each of the 4 public landings. For 2018 we have decided to conduct our own plant survey utilizing the training and volunteer time of two of our board members, that have completed the AIS Detector program through the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC). The money saved may be used to purchase additional inspector hours, at the public landings.

Education and Awareness Program

The association reaches out to the members and general public with newsletters like this one, monthly emails blasts to FLPOA members and others, AIS signs on CW County 1 and 136 (when approved by Fifty Lakes CUP in 2018), Fifty Lakes Days, and our annual meeting and personal contact with individuals. We have at least two FLPOA members that have been trained by the University of Minnesota AIS research team to be AIS Detectors. They help identify AIS plants and animals when reported by the general public to the DNR.

Veliger Testing Program

A veliger is the larva stage of the zebra mussel (ZM). In a lake that is infected with ZM, veligers can be found floating/suspended in the water. A water sample is collected, preserved, and sent to a lab in Detroit Lakes for examination for the larva. Volunteers will take these water samples in July. This is another state program that is administered by Crow Wing County.

WAPOA Water Sample Testing

We will again participate in this program, which involves taking water samples in 38 area lakes, and 8 streams, monthly from May through September. These samples are used to create the Trophic State Index (TSI) map.

FLPOA Membership

Membership runs from June 1st to May 31st each year. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT! Send your \$20 membership to:
FLPOA P.O. Box 206, Fifty Lakes, MN 56448

You can also use PayPal from our website <http://minnesotawaters.org/fiftylakespropertyowners/membership/>. If using PayPal, please contribute \$21 to cover processing costs.

**Thank you,
The FLPOA Board**



Tests of Area Lake Water -- 2017 Report

INDIVIDUAL LAKE TSI VALUES

- 50+ Arrowhead, Mary, Emily, Kego, Daggett, Mitchell, Smokey Hollow
- 48-49 Upper Whitefish, Upper Hay, E. Eagle, N. Roosevelt, Lawrence, Main Eagle
- 46-47 Big Pine, S. Roosevelt, Levitt, W. Eagle
- 42-45 L. Whitefish, M. Whitefish, L. Hay, Bertha, Clamshell, Cross, Rush, East + West Fox, Velvet, Island, Pig, Goodrich, Ruth, Butterfield, Wood
- 40-41 Ossawinnamakee, Big Trout, Clear
- 36-39 O'Brien, Ox, Kimble, Star

A lower TSI number is better with less algae and clearer water.

5 Reasons to work for a lower TSI

<p>LOWER TSI clearer water less algae desirable for swimming more oxygen in water game fish like this water</p>	<p>HIGHER TSI cloudier water more green algae less/no swimming less oxygen in water rough fish tendency</p>
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WAPOA tests water on over 30 lakes. The result is a "TSI number."

For every 1 point increase in TSI there is a 10% increase in algae in the water.

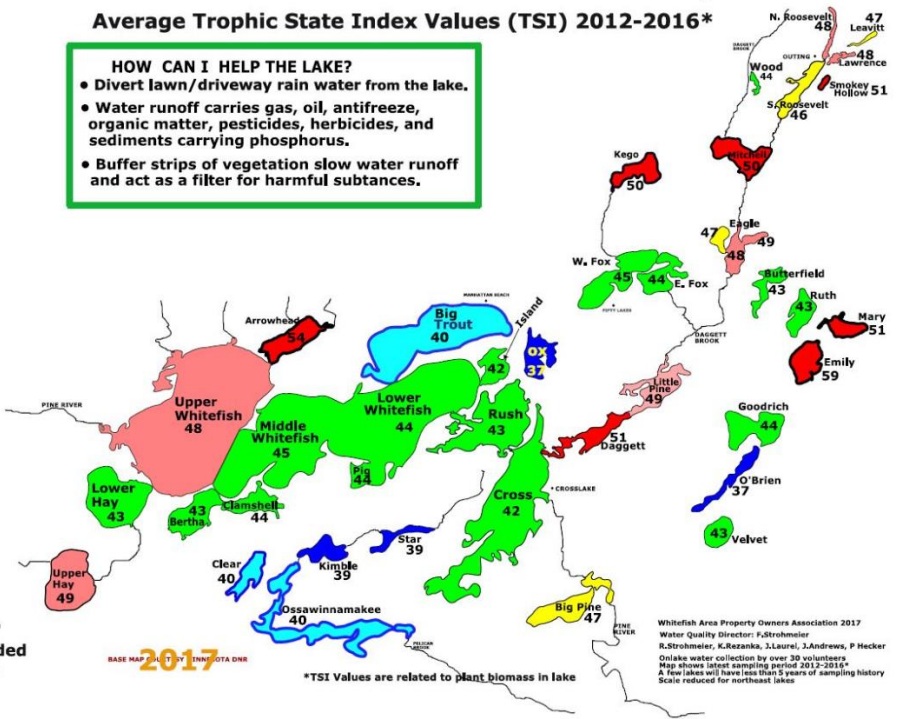
Rain water running from lawn to lake carries phosphorus bound to sediment. Phosphorus is needed to produce algae.

Your lawn's 1 pound of phosphorus, added to the lake, can result in the production of 500 pounds of algae in the lake.

Average Trophic State Index Values (TSI) 2012-2016*

HOW CAN I HELP THE LAKE?

- Divert lawn/driveway rain water from the lake.
- Water runoff carries gas, oil, antifreeze, organic matter, pesticides, herbicides, and sediments carrying phosphorus.
- Buffer strips of vegetation slow water runoff and act as a filter for harmful substances.



Family Membership/Renewal Form

Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc.
 P.O. Box 206, Fifty Lakes, MN 56448
www.minnesotawaters.org/group/fiftylakes

Membership Fee/Dues are \$20 per year. Please make checks payable to FLPOA. Or visit <http://minnesotawaters.org/fiftylakespropertyowners/membership/> and click on the "Complete the Membership Form Online" link.

**Dues run from June 1st to May 31st. If paying using PayPal please \$21 to cover processing expense. Additional contributions are also appreciated. We are a 501c3 organization, so your donation is tax deductible.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Lake Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

I am interested in helping the FLPOA with the following projects/activities/events